

diameters of the solid powders being at least 10 μm where one of the solid powders is calcium carbonate.

7. (Once Amended) A viscous liquid vibration damping composition according to Claim 1 wherein Component (B) is a mixture of (B1) a solid calcium carbonate powder with an average particle diameter of 1-50 μm , and (B2) a solid powder with an average particle diameter of 20-200 μm .

8. (Once Amended) A viscous liquid vibration damping composition according to Claim 7 wherein (B2) is an inorganic powder, an organic resin powder, or a silicone resin powder.

Remarks

Claims 1-12 are now in this case.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-12 under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) as being anticipated by Japanese publication 10-251517 to Akamatsu et al. The Examiner stated that "Akamatsu et al teach a vibration damping composition comprising 100 pts.wt. viscous liquid and 5-200 pts.wt. solid powder...."

Applicants have amended claim 1 such that one of the solid powders required by component (B) is calcium carbonate. Akamatsu uses calcium carbonate in a comparative example (comparative example 1) and therefore teaches away from using calcium carbonate as part of a vibration damping composition. Therefore, Applicants believe that Claim 1, as amended is novel and unobvious over Akamatsu. Applicants have also amended claims 7 and 8 to make them consistent with the amendment to claim 1. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider her rejections and take prompt action to allow claims 1-12.